

To whome it may concern:

I am writing to express my concern regarding Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation. As a returning resident to the state of Iowa, I have been shocked at the limited exposure to all opinions now available to people in this area. After twenty years away, I am amazed at the limited perspective people are able to share and discuss. This is a direct result of the movement of this nation to depend on radio and television for thier source of information. When the sources available only provide one perspective, the result becomes citizens who are uniformed and unilateral in their ability to understand policy, politics and international affairs. In a time when we are becoming a global community, this is of grave concern.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.

Jennifer Seydel
1017 220th Street
Shenandoah, IA 51601